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EGHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF

The Medical Officer of Health

FOR

The Year 1951

Egham Urban District Council

REPORT

TO THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF

EGHAM, SURREY

FOR

THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1951

BY

C. A. McPHERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the Egham Urban District Council :

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentleman,

It is my privilege to submit the annual report on the health of the district for 1951.

In commencing duty in your area on April 1st, 1951, I followed Dr. Wilkinson, whose knowledge of the district, its people and its problems was equalled only by his skill and wisdom in the sphere of general practice. In substitution for his work of curative medicine I can only cite my association and responsibility for your infectious disease cases if they come to be admitted to the Isolation Hospital, Ottershaw, and in the field of preventive medicine my work as Divisional Medical Officer for the North Western Division area of Surrey. In many aspects of public health there are occasions when the district's especial interests in environmental conditions overlap and intermingle with those personal health services for which the County Council are responsible and the desirability of having one Medical Officer responsible for the common problem would appear to have its advantages. I shall, therefore, try to be ever mindful of the fact that your Council offered me such opportunity and in this my first Annual Report to your authority I am glad to take advantage of a certain amount of freedom of expression which is customary in such communications.

In the Vital Statistics perhaps the most noteworthy cause for comment is the absence of any maternal death, and the absence of death ascribed to measles, whooping cough or diphtheria. As is usually to be found in infant deaths under one year of age, nine out of ten occurred in children under four months of age, and were associated with prematurity or developmental causes. It is now customary to be surprised if a case of diphtheria appears at all, but these two other infectious complaints are serious both as regards their difficulty of control and their high mortality rate and complications, and it is gratifying to be able to regard such findings in children under five years of age. During the year, under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1951 a new definition of this condition for notifying "any febrile condition occurring in a woman in whom a temperature of 100.4° Fahrenheit or more has occurred within fourteen days after childbirth or mis-carriage" replaced the previous regulations of 1939.

It is usual for notifications of tuberculosis nowadays to ebb and flow depending on the visit of the Mass Radiography Services, and no opportunity was offered to Egham during the year for these facilities, which are most desirable annually. With the gradual extension of pasteurised milk one can almost exclude the possibility of contracting this infection by the consumption of raw

milk, but with the employment of so many young people of both sexes at a susceptible age of 18 to 40 years, and with the increase of communal activities and meals, the opportunities for case to case infections are many. One of the most important groups of the population for rehousing are the tuberculous, and I am grateful to the Housing Committee for the special consideration which they have always shown in dealing with such cases as I have recommended to them.

During the year the number of places available to children in the Old Vicarage Day Nursery was reduced from 50 to 20 and in common with all such establishments in Surrey the criterion for admission was more precisely defined with the result that children will only be admitted when either the mother is the sole wage earner, when there is illness in the home or when bad housing conditions prejudice the children's health. There remain several improvements one would wish to see effected in the direction of better hygienic and sanitary conditions in schools and canteens, especially of church denominations and to a less extent in those maintained by the County Council. During the year the Council made application to the Ministry of Health under Section 233 of the Public Health Act, 1936 for the application of the model byelaws in relation to swimming pools, and these have now become operative.

Several public health problems have arisen regarding the disposal of refuse into water, in consequence of the permission which the Egham Council gave under the Surrey County Council Act, 1931 to enable the boroughs of Kingston, Malden and Coombe and Surbiton to dispose of their refuse in this area for a limited period. Tipping activities commenced in March 1951 and the experiment is such that I feel its public health aspects should be reported on in some detail. I have therefore commented more fully on the project later in my report.

In conclusion I would wish to thank all members of the Council for their consideration and your Clerk for his courtesy and helpful guidance on all occasions. I would also wish to record the efficient and constant service of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

C. A. McPHERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Egham Urban District Council

Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health : A. GEDEN WILKINSON, M.B.,
 (Part-time) Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.
 (Left the service of the Council, 31st March, 1951)

Medical Officer of Health : C. A. McPHERSON, M.B.,
 Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.
 (who is also the Medical Officer for the N.W. Division
 of the County Council)

Senior Sanitary Inspector : F. G. BRITCHER, M.R.San.I.,
 M.S.I.A., Certificate of the R.S.I.
 and S.I.E.J.B., Certified Meat
 and Food Inspector.

Second Sanitary Inspector : R. I. SHEPHERD, M.R.San.I.,
 M.S.I.A., Certificate of the R.S.I.
 and S.I.E.J.B., Certified Meat
 and Food Inspector.

Third Sanitary Inspector : W. R. W. SHATTOCK, M.S.I.A.,
 Certificate of the R.S.I. and
 S.I.E.J.B.

Rodent Officer : A. E. SILVER.

Housing Assistant (Temporary) : T. T. SANDERS.
 (Transferred to Housing Department, 16th April, 1951).

Clerk : Miss D. WINGFIELD.

SECTION A

STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	9,350 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid-year 1951	...	...	...	...	...	25,370
Number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1951						6,660
Rateable Value on 31st December, 1951	...				...	£254,231
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 12 months end- ing 31st March, 1952	...		...	...	...	£1,025

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

				Average for five years		
				1951	1950	1946-1950
Population (Registrar General's estimate at mid-year)				25,370	24,920	23,640
Comparability Factors						
Births				1.07	1.07	—
Deaths				0.99	0.99	
Live Births						
Legitimate				339	327 ¹	357.6
Illegitimate				17	11	17.6
Total				356	338	375.2
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ...				14.03	13.56	15.94
Still-Births						
Legitimate				5	8	7.6
Illegitimate				0	0	0.6
Total				5	8	8.2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births				13.85	23.12	21.27
Deaths				277	230	233.6
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ...				10.92	9.23	9.92
Deaths from puerperal causes ...				0	0	0.2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births				—	—	0.53
Deaths of infants under one year of age						
Legitimate				9	5	10
Illegitimate				1	0	1.2
Total				10	5	11.2
Death rate of infants under one year of age						
All infants per 1,000 live births...				28.09	14.79	29.45
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...				26.54	15.30	27.68
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...				58.82	—	60.11

CAUSES OF DEATH (ALL AGES)
(Figures supplied by Registrar-General)

Causes of Death				Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	5	1	6
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases			—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	5	1	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus...			8	—	8
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	5	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	4	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	11	8	19
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	2	1	3
16.	Diabetes	...	...	1	—	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	18	20	38
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	19	13	32
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	3	5	8
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	28	43	71
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	3	4	7
22.	Influenza	...	...	10	3	13
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	3	2	5
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	5	3	8
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system			1	—	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	5	1	6
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	2	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	—	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	3	1	4
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases			12	10	22
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	2	—	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	—	1	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	2	1	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—	—
Total from all causes				149	128	277

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1951

	Rate per 1,000 Home Population		All Causes	Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Home Population							Rate per 1,000 Live Births		
	Live Births	Still Births		Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis		Pneumonia	
England and Wales	15.5	0.36	12.5	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.31	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.61	29.6†	1.4
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, in- cluding London	17.3	0.45	13.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.37	0.36	0.00	0.01	0.69	33.9	1.6
148 Smaller Town (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	16.7	0.38	12.5	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.31	0.38	0.00	0.01	0.63	27.6	1.0
London	17.8	0.37	13.1	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.39	0.07	0.00	0.01	0.48	26.4	0.7
Egham	14.0	0.19	10.9	—	—	—	0.23	0.51	—	—	0.18	28.1	—

† Per 1,000 related live births

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The Surrey County Council as the Local Health Authority is responsible for the Ambulance and Medical Transport Services.

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological and Chemical examinations of water are carried out by the Clinical Research Association Ltd., London.

Bacteriological examinations of milk, ice cream and water, are undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom, together with such other specimens as need examination from time to time.

Biological examinations of milk were undertaken by the Laboratory at the Royal Surrey Hospital, Guildford

Swabs and other clinical specimens are examined at the Public Health Laboratories at either Epsom or Reading, or at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey.

Infectious Disease Cases

The Isolation Hospital, Ottershaw (telephone number: Ottershaw 327) is responsible for admitting cases of infectious disease from the district.

Home Nursing and Midwifery

The Surrey County Council with the good services of the District Nursing Association maintains six trained nurses who perform combined duties in the area. Their addresses are as follows :—

R. Isherwood ...	52, Kingsley Avenue, Englefield Green	...	Egham 282
M. E. Lonnon...	5, Tempest Road, Egham	...	Staines 4290
E. M. Rainbow	6, Spring Rise, Egham	...	Egham 306
E. Salmon ...	85, Thorpe Road, Staines	...	Staines 3148
(Relief)			
E. H. Watts ...	32, Trumps Green Avenue, Virginia Water	...	Wentworth 2133
G. M. West ...	1, Wapshott Road, Egham Hythe	...	Staines 3456

Home Help Service

The County Council maintains from its Divisional Offices in Woking, a service for the provision of home helps in maternity cases, and for the purpose of giving assistance in homes when illness is present.

Cleansing Station

The general incidence of verminous condition and scabies is now so reduced in the area that with the resignation of the part

time nurse it was decided not to fill the vacancy. Cases requiring treatment can, however, be dealt with in the County Council's Clinic at the Drill Hall, Egham, where facilities are available.

During the year nineteen cases of verminous infestation were treated when two families attended for treatment purposes. Measures for disinfestation of the homes were satisfactorily carried out.

Clinics and other Treatment Centres

The Surrey County Council maintains school medical, ante-natal, maternity and child welfare, immunisation, dental, remedial exercises and speech defect clinics. These, in the main, are operated from the Drill Hall, Kings Road, Egham.

In addition the Regional Hospital Board provides services for the Chest Physician and his clinic is held in these same premises.

Clinic Sessions are as follows :—

Clinic, Kings Road, Egham

(Telephone : Egham 341)

Ante-Natal	...	...	Every Monday	1.30-3 p.m.
School Dental:	Fillings	and		
	Inspections	...	Every Tuesday	9.30 a.m.-12
	(by appointment only)	...	Every Thursday	1.30-4 p.m.
Gas Dental				
	(by appointment only)	...	Every Thursday	9.30 a.m.-12
Dental, Expectant & Nursing Mothers & under 5's				
	(by appointment only)	...	2nd & 4th Mondays	
			in the month	2-4 p.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation		...	Every 2nd Wednesday	
			in the month	9.30 a.m.-12
School Medical Clinic		...	Every Friday	9.30 a.m.-12
Infant Welfare Centre		...	Every Friday	2-4 p.m.
Eye Clinic				
	(by appointment only)	...	2nd and 4th Mondays	
			in the month	9.30 a.m.-12
Chest Clinic				
	(by appointment only)	...	2nd Thursday	
			in the month	2 p.m.
			4th Thursday	
			in the month	2 p.m.
Pre-School Clinic for Toddlers				
	(by appointment only)	...	1st Wednesday	
			in the month	9.30 a.m.-12
Speech Defect Class (only by reference from S.M.O.)		...	Every Tuesday	9.30 a.m.-12
				2-4 p.m.

Methodist Hall, Victoria Street, Englefield Green

Infant Welfare Centre	...	Every Wednesday	2-4 p.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation	...	1st Wednesday	
		in the month	10 a.m.-12

Trotsworth Hall, Station Approach, Virginia Water

Every Wednesday	2-4 p.m.	Infant Welfare Centre	...
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Diphtheria Immunsation

(also for children under 5
years)

...	...	1st & 3rd Wednesday
		in the month
		during the Infant
		Welfare Centre

Day Nursery, Old Vicarage, Egham (Telephone No.: Egham 539)

The Surrey County Council maintains 20 places for children aged 0-5 years and applications and information in respect of admission may be obtained from the Matron.

The Divisional Medical Officer is responsible for the Divisionalised County Council services which are administered from 15, The Grove, Horsell, Woking (Telephone No.: Woking 3510).

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

In February application was successfully made to the court on medical grounds for the detention of an elderly man in Hospital. The condition of the premises themselves was also considered prejudicial to health, and they were subsequently cleansed and disinfected by the Public Health Department, at the owner's expense.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The South West Suburban Water Company supplies the greater part of the area and this supply has proved satisfactory during the year, both in quality and quantity. The joint scheme with two other local authorities also served by this company whereby monthly samples of water are taken by the authorities in rotation, and the results of the examinations circulated to each authority, has continued during the year. All the samples are taken of the water as supplied and each sample is submitted to both chemical and bacteriological examination. During the year eleven samples were taken, and in every case the chemical examination showed the water to be of satisfactory quality, but in two cases, both in an adjoining rural area, in July and September, the bacteriological examinations gave results much below the usual stan-

dard. However, in view of the results of the chemical examinations and the fact that faecal coli were not present the water was considered to be reasonably safe.

In addition thirty-three samples, for bacteriological examination only, were taken of the water supply at certain premises not supplied directly from the public mains. Most of these were taken from premises in a rural area adjoining a disused gravel pit into which house refuse was being tipped on a fairly large scale. With the exception of one pump, the nearest to the refuse tip, the results of the bacteriological examinations on these samples were surprisingly good. However, at the same time other samples for chemical examination were taken by the County Council and these showed that the water was being affected by the tipping operations, and was therefore potentially dangerous. As a result of negotiations between this Council and the three Councils whose refuse was being deposited in the disused gravel pit arrangements were made for a small extension of the water main in Ten Acre Lane, Thorpe, and from there a one inch service pipe was laid for a total distance of approximately 600 yards to serve three properties where the wells were affected by tipping operations.

In two other cases, not connected with this refuse tipping operation, examinations showed the well water to be unsatisfactory, but as these samples were taken on the last day of the year, action resulting from the examinations was not begun until 1952.

Of the 6,660 dwelling houses in the area all but approximately one hundred are now supplied with main water. During the year 217 premises, many of them new buildings, have been connected to the Company's mains.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE SCHEME

Sewage Disposal Works

These have continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year though at certain times the works continue to be burdened with surface water which gains access to the system during wet periods.

Drainage and Sewerage

The sewerage system continues to operate satisfactorily. Considering the heavy work which has to be undertaken by all pumping stations, it is gratifying to record that only minor repairs have been necessary during the past twelve months.

During the year an extension of the public sewer was arranged to serve a small residential estate where active development is now taking place and where previously the few existing houses had had to rely on cesspools or septic tanks.

Disposal of Cesspool Contents

The Council have continued to operate two cesspool emptying vehicles together with a combined cesspool gulley emptier, the use of which is shared with the Highways Department. With the exception of occasional loads from farm premises which were, by arrangement with the owner, discharged onto cultivated land, the cesspool emptiers continued to discharge their loads directly into the sewage disposal works at Chertsey. This method has continued to operate fairly satisfactorily, though it does entail lengthy hauls in some cases, and the approach roads through the works which are not properly metalled have suffered from the heavy wear they receive.

Following the reduction in the number of free emptyings allowed from 9 to 6 per year, which came into effect on 1st October, 1949, the demands on this service eased very slightly and during 1950 the total amount of sewage removed by the cesspool emptiers was approximately 2,893,000 gallons, as compared with 3,076,000 gallons in 1949 and 723,000 gallons in 1939.

The sewerage of the Knowle Grove area towards the end of the year afforded a further slight relief to this service, but the general tendency is still for the demands upon the service to increase and during the year the total amount of sewage removed was approximately 2,945,000 gallons, a slight increase over the previous year.

Rivers and Streams

No serious cases of pollution were noted during the year.

Closet Accommodation

The service introduced during 1949 for the emptying of pail closets in the Thorpe Ward once weekly by means of one of the cesspool emptiers specially equipped for the purpose, continued throughout the year without complaint. The average number of premises served again increased slightly to 146.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

During the year the work of filling the Tip at Ten Acre Lane has continued at a fairly high rate. The work undertaken by the bulldozer has fully justified its acquisition, and during the past year a considerable quantity of semi-inert refuse has been pushed into the open water.

During the summer months, it was necessary to purchase a larger quantity of covering material than in previous years, but this has done much to prevent nuisance from flies, rats and other pests.

Approx. No. of bins, etc.	...	...	8,300 weekly
Approx. weekly quantity of refuse (excluding trade refuse)	...	...	300 tons

Particulars of salvage material collected	Paper, Rags, Scrap Iron, Metal, Rubber & Kitchen Waste
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No. of lorries	6 and 1 relief
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Employees

No. of Collectors (excluding drivers)...	16
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No. of men at Pit (including Foreman)	3
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Collection of Pigswill

This service has continued as in previous years though the amounts collected have fallen to a level which scarcely justifies collection.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1931, SECTION 94

Any Local Authority seeking to dispose of any refuse in the area of another Local Authority in the County must secure the consent of the Local Authority in whose area the deposit is to be made. After due investigation, therefore, by all concerned it was decided that the problems of disposal of domestic refuse from the Boroughs of Kingston, Malden and Coombe and Surbiton should be alleviated by utilising a wet pit in the form of one of the dis-used sand and gravel excavations in Egham. It was subsequently agreed that for a limited period until August 31st, 1951, tipping should commence subject to the following conditions :—

1. That the tipping of refuse shall cease forthwith if the County Council has evidence which would satisfy them that danger or injury to the health of the public has arisen or is likely to arise from such tipping.
2. That an adequate boom shall be constructed to retain the refuse within reasonable limits and to prevent debris floating away on the surface of the water or elsewhere about the site.
3. That the finished surface of the tip shall be completed to the satisfaction of the Egham Urban District Council and the Surrey County Council.
4. That all empty tins, drums, tanks and similar vessels be completely crushed before being deposited into the water.
5. That sufficient and competent labour be provided to enable the necessary measures to be taken for the prevention of nuisance.
6. That the tip shall, at all times, be kept clean and tidy to the satisfaction of the Egham Urban District Council and the Surrey County Council.

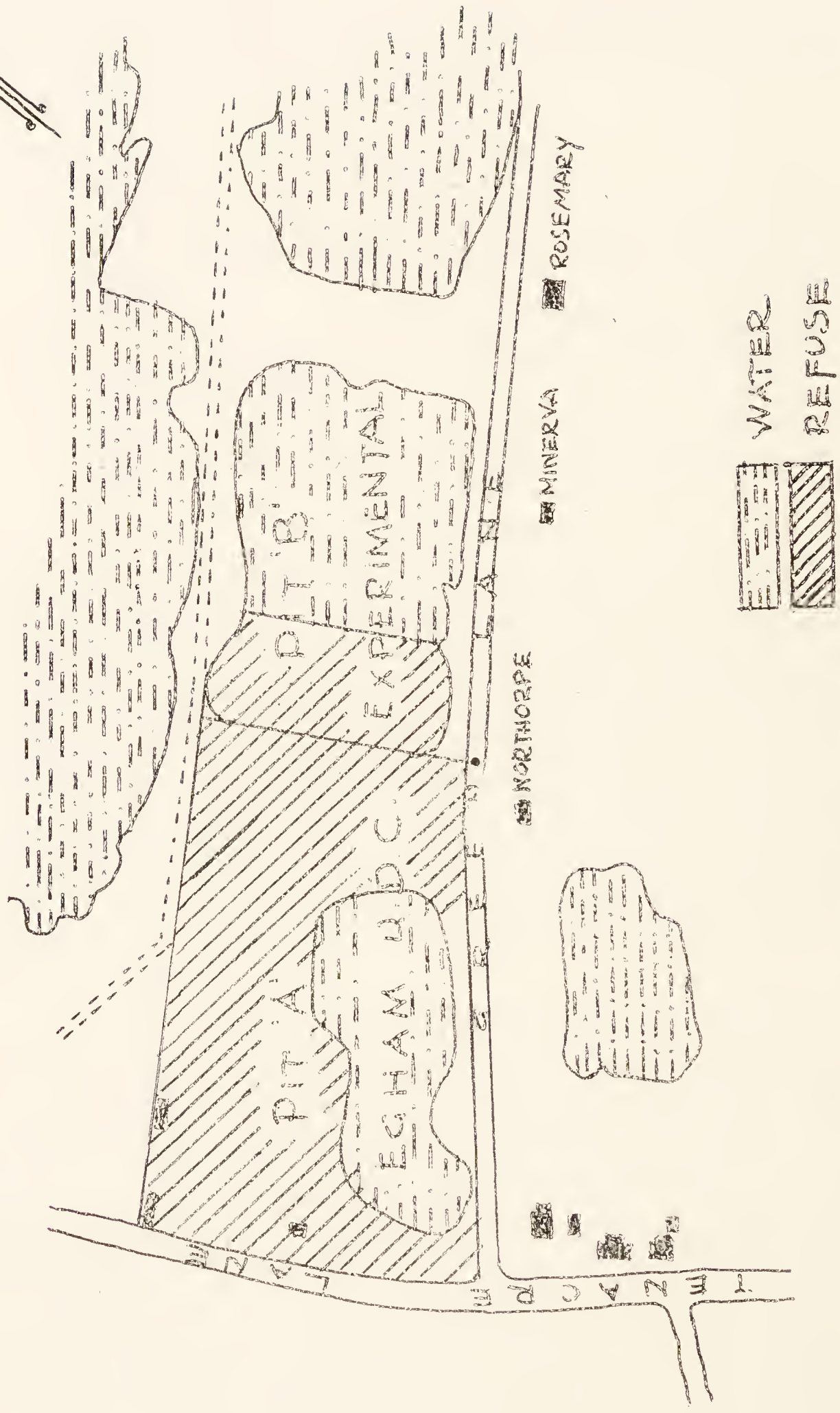
On March 1st, 1951 tipping commenced, and the conveyance of refuse and its disposal on the site was carried out by private contract. The most frequent way of treating refuse in this country is by a system of controlled tipping and it might be appropriate at this stage to indicate the Ministry of Health's recommendations in such a process. They are as follows :—

- (1) Deposits to be made in layers.
- (2) No layer to exceed 6 feet in depth.
- (3) Each layer to be covered on all sides exposed to the air with at least 9 inches of earth or other suitable substance.
- (4) No refuse to be left uncovered for more than 72 hours.
- (5) Screens to be provided where necessary to prevent wind distribution of refuse.
- (6) Fish, animal, and similar putrescible refuse should be deposited well inside the dump and be covered forthwith.
- (7) Outbreak of fire should be prevented.

The disposal of household refuse by tipping into water is no new venture and indeed has been practised in Egham for the past 25 years, and with such relative success that disused sand and gravel pits are now replaced by open sites, and it remains the present way of dealing with the town's refuse problems. It would obviously be of very great advantage if this procedure could be extended, and if many unsightly, disused and dangerous quarries could eventually be replaced by playing fields or useful buildings. For various reasons, however, this has not been found generally practicable, and it will be appropriate if we examine the public health grounds which have largely been responsible for transferring attention to other sites, or to measures for dealing with a population's refuse.

In the first instance the thoroughness with which all the sand or gravel is removed from pits in many cases exposes directly or indirectly chalk strata, whose numerous water bearing formations are invariably pure but especially liable to contamination. Wet tipping, therefore, in areas where households are drawing a non-chlorinated water supply from chalk must be considered dangerous. Normally the inevitable smell of sulphuretted hydrogen sooner or later appears when trade or household refuse is added to water. Instances have been cited in areas other than Egham when the concentration of the gas appears to such a degree in the air as to blacken paint and tarnish cutlery, a state of affairs which is clearly intolerable, but fortunately preventable. Perhaps another reason for hesitancy in wet tipping has been the natural reluctance of Authorities to provide those physical conditions in the wet tip favourable for the development of nuisances unless the strictest supervision is maintained. A previous tract of oxygenated water

THORPE REFUSE PITS



SCALE 12 1/2 INCHES TO ONE MILE.

which may have been used for boating, bathing or fishing has become blackened, fish will die, bubbles of methane will be seen effervescing from various parts of the surface and around the edges floating débris of all kinds become an eyesore. Especial means will therefore have to be taken around the edges and on the tip face, to minimise the potential breeding grounds provided for vermin, flies and mosquitoes. These are some of the difficulties which were envisaged before experimental tipping commenced on March 1st, 1951. It might be helpful to illustrate by the accompanying sketch plan the site involved, showing its relation to the adjoining tip and the nearest occupied dwelling houses.

Pit A. has received household refuse for the past 13 years, and it is estimated that it will be approximately 3 years before the water disappears. Its chemical analysis shows a high dissolved solid content, high chlorides, alkalinity and ammonia and a moderately high permanganate demand. No oxygen is in solution, but the water did not putresce and the biological oxygen demand was not unduly high. It is understood that on occasions the water gave off unpleasant odours, but these had not persisted nor had they been the subject of complaint. The average amount of weekly refuse admitted has been approximately 220 tons and no treatment of any kind has been given to the water apart from occasional dosage with copper sulphate to minimise algal growth.

In experimental pit B. the capacity of which is approximately 40 million gallons, a daily load of 120 tons of household refuse has been maintained since March 1st, and the water which was saturated with oxygen at the commencement of operations, gave the following report some six weeks later.

No oxygen in solution.

Biological oxygen demand increased from 0.17 to 2 parts per 100,000.

Sulphates increased from 34—50 parts per 100,000 (in terms of sulphur).

Bacterial count Agar at 22°C. increased from 8,000 to 500,000 per m.l.

No sulphate reducing bacteria present.

Water changed from clarity to turbidity.

No odour present.

At this point I would like to digress to comment on the more important aspects of the site in relation to nearby water samples. Throughout the operations the closest watch was kept on drinking waters from the pumps at Northorpe, Minerva and Rosemary, and they together with other samples taken at a distance of one third of a mile at Coldharbour, were subjected to repeated chemical and bacteriological analyses. From the results of chemical

analyses of pit waters both in Egham pit A. and the experimental pit B. and those adjoining, it appears that the underground flow of water is in a South Easterly direction, and the water from the well at Northorpe cottage largely reflects the chemical composition of the water in pit A. Supplies, however, have generally shown the absence of coliform organisms in 100 m.l. of water. From Rosemary 8 samples out of 11 taken over a period of 3 months show the absence of coliform organisms in 100 m.l. of water, but on 3 occasions during a period of 3 weeks the water was reported on as "contaminated and unfit for drinking purposes" because of coliform counts of 50, 35 and 5 per 100 m.l. respectively. One cannot, however, exclude the possibility of a local surface contamination here as being responsible for these findings, as successive repeated samples showed the water to be fit for drinking purposes.

On June 28th samples were taken at 3 points in a straight line to determine the rate of bacterial purification by subsoil gravel and the following results are of interest :—

	Yards	Coliforms per 100 mls.	Agar Count per ml. 2 days @ 27°C.	Agar Count per ml. 3 days @ 22°C.
Gravel pit "B"	0	More than 1,800	12,800	23,000
Bore halfway between pit "B" and Rosemary	45	More than 1,800	9,200	12,000
Bore at Rosemary	90	nil	15	65

At this same time although the dissolved solids in pit B. had increased from 26 to 100 parts per 100,000, those in the Rosemary well remained fairly constant at approximately 40 parts per 100,000. The bacteria! report from the well at Minerva, a nearby cottage property, showed it to be grossly polluted with a count of over 1,800 coliform organisms per 100 m.l.

It should be noted that all these wells have earth closets and disposal of faeces is by burial in the ground. In addition many households keep domestic animals, pigs and poultry, and any single bacterial report of an unsatisfactory nature would have to be interpreted in conjunction with such local factors responsible for soil contamination. It has been found that in common with other wells in the nearby vicinity, the general bacteriological findings are consistently good, and the results again bear witness to the capacity of gravel strata for water purification. However, presumably there comes a point when gravel must fail to preserve its powers of bacterial filtration either in face of an excessive or

often repeated load. For various reasons, therefore, the Council took the wise precaution of securing the extension of the main water supply to these cottages, and the installations were completed at about the end of the year.

To return to the state of affairs six weeks after tipping had commenced, it may be helpful if I briefly summarise what was known about the behaviour of bacteria in water and refuse as such data will be seen to have a bearing on subsequent developments at the tip.

- (a) Sulphur reducing bacteria are normally present in many soils and waters. They proliferate under such conditions as lack of oxygen and produce sulphide which is liberated in the form of the objectionable smell of hydrogen sulphide.
- (b) The growth and development of one organism associated with the breakdown of organic matter, and the formation of hydrogen sulphide, etc., may favour multiplication of others, and conversely in the competition for food or by the production of toxic bodies one species may eliminate the other.
- (c) Bacteria of the chromatia or chlorobia species can utilise hydrogen sulphide for their own growth purposes, provided oxygen is absent from the water. Thus it is possible to visualise the elimination of sulphide from the water by the introduction of a sufficient quantity of these organisms whose multiplication will be associated by a process of conversion of the sulphide to sulphur or sulphate with a consequent diminution of smell.
- (d) With the absence of sunlight and a lower water temperature there is a lowered activity of protozoal and algal life and a corresponding rise in the total bacterial counts. In other words bacterial activity is usually higher in winter than summer in raw waters.
- (e) It is well known that compressed domestic house refuse assisted by a process of controlled tipping develops a sufficient temperature to destroy fly larvae. It is probable, therefore, that disease producing organisms in refuse will suffer a similar fate if such temperatures can be maintained for a sufficient period, so that the process of tipping on dry land at the edge of the pit and later after a given time pushing the "composted" material into the water, has much to recommend it.

At the end of May the sulphide content of the water was 7 parts per million expressed in terms of Hydrogen Sulphide. The Biological Oxygen Demand had risen to 7 parts per 100,000 and some complaints of smell were received from nearby dwelling houses.

It is possible to deal with and to prevent the smell of sulphuretted hydrogen in several ways, and this may be accomplished by breaking at some stage the sequence of events which has already been described. It can be done as follows :—

- (a) by satisfying the Biological Oxygen Demand of the water, and returning it to its oxygenated state by aeration in order to prevent the activity of sulphate reducing bacteria.
- (b) by adding chemicals, usually oxidising and sterilising agents such as chlorine, by liquid or gas, or in the form of bleaching powder or by reducing the p.H. of the water to 3 to 4 by the addition of sulphuric acid, at which degree of acidity bacterial growth becomes reduced.
- (c) by the use of activated carbon.
- (d) by adding chromatia or chlorobia bacteria to the water in the hope that they will absorb and utilise hydrogen sulphide in the manner described.

This latter was the method selected, and on May 21st and June 1st cultures of chlorobia were introduced. It is as well at this stage of the procedure to recall that since March 1st the daily tipping load of approximately 120 tons had been maintained, and so far complaints of smell had been exceptional. It seemed reasonable, therefore, at this stage to attempt to combat what amount of smell there was by this method as yet untried on any large scale process and in the interests of economy. One encouraging finding was the presence in the Egham tip A. of naturally introduced chromatia. Although no quantitative estimate was made it was presumptive evidence that their presence might have been partly responsible for the relative freedom from smell which that tip had enjoyed for so long.

However, what in fact transpired was that the sulphide continued to increase from 10 to 35 parts per million in terms of hydrogen sulphide from June 15th to July 20th. The sulphate which towards the end of April had reached its maximum of 80 parts per million in terms of sulphur due to the natural water content and the increase due to tipping, had become completely reduced by July 20th. About this time complaints of smell became so marked not only from Thorpe but as far distant as the Chertsey Lane area and Staines itself. In fact from about a 2 mile radius in the direction of the prevailing south west wind. The strongest concentration of sulphuretted hydrogen in the area directly by the tip was one part in 4 million, and it is surprising that such a concentration could make its presence felt at such distances. It was decided to accelerate the dispersal of the sulphide by adding bleach and 5 tons were introduced during the first week in August. From the beginning of August the reduced amount of sulphides remained at a fairly constant level, at approximately 8 parts per

million (in terms of hydrogen sulphide) and apart from isolated occasions produced no complaint until the middle of November, when it was found that by the rapid conversion of sulphate which had been added to the water in the form of builders' rubble and ash, their level had again risen to the region of 27 parts per million. From this one can presume that sulphate reducing anaerobic bacteria multiply and are active in cold weather, a fact which is already known to apply even more forcibly to the history of pathogenic organisms existing in oxygenated river waters. With this finding it was then decided to commence tipping on a low dry platform, and as was expected the sulphides fell to 12 parts per million, at which level they remained until the end of the year. It was proposed, therefore, to maintain dry tipping until the end of the year when a partial degree of wet tipping would recommence to provide a platform for later summer operations on dry land. About this time the need for aeration of the water was discussed, as the method is of proven value, and with oxygenated conditions no nuisance of smell can occur. Many of the difficulties which have arisen are related to the speed of tipping and the volume of refuse dealt with, and it is to be hoped that in the light of further experience they may become preventable. Some reference was made earlier in the report to the conception of controlled tipping, and however difficult it may be to adapt its principles to the alternate process of dry and partial wet tipping near the water surface, it remains the most economic, hygienic and aesthetic way of dealing with the disposal of refuse. The main problem of defining a satisfactory area of operation at the tip face, together with the provision of suitable and sufficient amounts of covering material would appear to be a financial one.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector has been faced with many additional problems arising out of the large scale wet tipping processess. His attention perhaps has especially been directed towards the control of mosquitoes, flies and rats, all of which found conditions from time to time very much to their liking. As soon as the water had become foul mosquitoes were found breeding in enormous numbers all round the edges of the pit, with great numbers of adults resting in the surrounding vegetation. Immediate action was taken against both larvae and adults and a great reduction of the mosquito population was achieved. Numerous specimens were sent for identification, but all proved to be the comparatively harmless *Culex pipiens*. As tipping into the water proceeded it was intended that floating booms should be kept a few feet from the tip faces to control floating refuse, but the pressure of this floating mass was such that the booms had to be eased back at intervals, and after a few months a great mass was built up of floating refuse of considerable thickness. This provided a breeding ground for flies and rats, but the carrying out of control measures became extremely difficult as the floating mass of refuse was not strong enough to

support a man with safety. It was impossible to cover all this exposed refuse, and the best that could be done was the spraying of Gammexane insecticide from the edge of the tip or from a boat in the open water, according to the direction of the wind. The control of rats was even more difficult. Many made their homes in the floating refuse; the rodent operator could not get near them and with adequate food available in the refuse efforts to entice them onto the "mainland" to take baits were only partly successful. In another part of the tip a large cleft formed towards the end of the year between the tipped refuse and the original vertical bank of the pit, and large numbers of rats chose this warmed and sheltered spot for their winter quarters. As winter came on there was probably a migration of rats into the tip, attracted by the warmth and by the plentiful food supply. Normal control measures were made even more difficult by the shortage of covering material which meant that refuse was often left exposed for days or even weeks, and by the varying activities at the tip. The problem of pest control on the tip would undoubtedly have been simplified had there been from the outset a better co-ordination of the work of all the various interests concerned.

To combat the nuisance arising from floating refuse a scheme has been evolved of tipping fingers of refuse out into the water; as much as possible of the floating mass is then manipulated into the bays between fingers, the bays sealed off and filled in as quickly as possible. This system has reduced the amount of floating refuse considerably, but the problem is a continuing one, being one of the inherent difficulties arising from tipping refuse direct into water. The other main point for criticism is the tendency to leave crude refuse exposed for long periods and this can be met only by the provision and intelligent spreading of a sufficient quantity of suitable covering material. The difficulty here is, as I have already mentioned, really only one of finance.

I am proposing to include in my report for the following year a graph showing the various concentrations of Sulphide, Sulphate and the Biological Oxygen Demand of the tip waters when the effect of treatment will be seen, and a more complete picture obtained of the operations, than would be represented by the present period of 9 months.

I am very grateful to Mr. J. F. Furness, B.Sc., of the County Highway and Bridges Department for the facts and figures which he has supplied to me, and for his co-operation at all times with the Public Health Department.

SANITARY INSPECTION

The following inspections were made during the year :—

Public Health Acts

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	796
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	33

Infestations	...	...	...	...	121
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	44
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	192
Drainage and Sewerage	...	...	...	...	454
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	200
Watercourses and Streams...	...	...	...	...	24
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	25
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	12
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	200
Housing Acts					
Dwelling Houses...	...	...	...	...	19
Council Houses	...	...	...	...	413
Housing Applicants	...	...	...	...	156
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3
Food & Drugs Act, etc.					
Dairies, Milkshops, etc.	...	...	...	...	80
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	35
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	229
Food Inspections	...	...	...	...	151
Food Sampling	...	...	...	...	244
P.H. Meat Regulations	...	...	...	...	21
Egham U.D.C. Act					
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	12
Food Hawkers	...	...	...	...	28
Factories Acts	...	...	...	...	89
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	185
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	95
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	...	17
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	4045
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	62
TOTAL					7985

Action Taken

125 Informal Notices were served and 114 were complied with during the year.

19 Statutory Notices were served and 14 complied with during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The scheme whereby a consolidated grant of 50% of the approved net expenditure incurred is refunded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries continued during the year on much the same lines as before. The staff engaged on this work remained at

one Rodent Officer together with a Rodent Operator who spent part of his time on miscellaneous work in the department such as disinfection and disinfestation, as and when required.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year.

Number of properties inspected

(a)	As a result of complaints	...	453	
(b)	Otherwise	...	...	1054
				<hr/>
		Total		1507

Number of properties found to be infested

(a)	By rats	...	...	681	
(b)	By mice	...	...	102	
				<hr/>	
		Total			783

Number of infested properties treated ... 781

Number of "block control" schemes carried out
(2 or more premises treated jointly) ... 123

Number of infested properties reported to Agricultural Executive Committee ... 5

Joint operations with neighbouring local authorities or Agricultural Executive Committee ... 1

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

(a)	Council Houses infested	...	...	3
	disinfested	...	...	3
(b)	Requisitioned premises infested	...	...	3
	disinfested	...	...	3
(c)	Private premises infested	...	...	13
	disinfested	...	...	13

Methods Employed

Proprietary brands of insecticides incorporating either D.D.T. or Gammexane in a kerosene base were employed, spraying being carried out where necessary after redecoration in order that maximum use of the residual properties of the insecticide was ensured.

GENERAL INFESTATION CONTROL

Apart from bed bugs my department also dealt during the year with the following infestations, using D.D.T. or Gammexane

preparations in powder or liquid form, and, for wasps, Potassium Cyanide.

Fleas	...	...	3
Cockroaches	...	...	18
Wasps	...	...	63
Hornets	...	...	6
Lice	...	...	1

THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Seventy-six Premises are on the register, viz.:—

Garages and motor repairers	...	...	18
Engineers other than the above	...	...	17
Bakehouses	...	...	8
Builders	...	...	10
Tailors, Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	...	...	4
Miscellaneous Trades	...	...	19

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power ...	69	3	—
Factories without mechanical power	18	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—
TOTAL	87	3	—

Defects Found

	Number of Defects		Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of Cases in respect of which prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied			
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) insufficient ...	—	—	—	1	—
unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	4	—
not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	4	—	5	—

SMOKE ABATEMENT

No cases requiring action arose during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are in the area several privately owned open-air swimming baths, but only two, at hotels, are open to the general public. One of these had been disused during the war years, but has now been brought back into use. Three samples from two of these baths were taken for bacteriological examination, all giving satisfactory results.

SCHOOLS

There are six elementary, one secondary and seven private schools, together with a Special Subjects Centre. All these schools are served with the South West Suburban Water Company's main supply.

With the exception of the two elementary schools at Thorpe and Christchurch Road, Virginia Water, all are connected to the main drainage.

Thorpe Schools

These schools are served with pail closet and urinal accommodation. The latter is connected to a soakaway. These primitive arrangements are well maintained, and the closets are emptied weekly by this Council's conveyance.

Christchurch School

This school continues to be served by pail closets. These are emptied by a part-time employee into a cesspool at the rear of the school. This is not a satisfactory arrangement and as the school is to continue in existence the question of draining these closets to the cesspool should be considered.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Milk supplied 1951

		On Roll Milk Roll		Grade	Per cent. on Milk Roll
Egham	Mixed	449	268	Pasteurised	59.4
	Infants	187	176	Pasteurised	94.1
Englefield Green	Mixed	404	270	Pasteurised	66.8
	Infants	234	224	Pasteurised	95.7
Egham Hythe	Boys	289	250	Pasteurised	86.5
	Girls	310	287	Pasteurised	92.5
	Infants	226	226	Pasteurised	100.0
St. Ann's Heath		171	145	Pasteurised	84.7
Christchurch		118	118	Pasteurised	100.0
Thorpe		78	50	Pasteurised	64.1
		2466	2014		81.7%

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Three hundred and thirty-five children completed their course of immunisation during the year as follows :—

		Inoculated A.P.T. (2 injections)
School children	...	8
Under fives	...	327
Total		<hr/> 335 <hr/>

In addition 670 children, previously immunised, received boosting doses.

The Ministry of Health agreed in January, 1950, to pay general practitioners a fee for notifying vaccination and immunisation, and during the year 148 such notifications were received for immunisations and 520 notifications for vaccinations.

SITES FOR MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There are now four main sites for moveable dwellings within the district the fourth, a small one, having been added during the year.

(a) Anglers Rest Hotel Site

This site still houses a maximum of 50 moveable dwellings. The caravans on it are now mostly used for whole time occupation. The site is provided with a supply of main water to a standpipe, two blocks of water closets drained to the sewer, and a number of refuse bins which are emptied each week by the Council in the normal way. There is some risk of flooding of the site in winter and in view of this the possibility of clearing the site during the winter months was under consideration during the year, but as most of the caravans are now the only homes of their occupiers this, desirable though it is, will be difficult to carry out.

(b) Fishing Temple, Chertsey Lane

This site houses a maximum of 39 moveable dwellings, mostly the better type of modern trailer caravan. Main water is supplied to standpipes, and there are water closets drained to a cesspool, though many of the caravanners prefer to use their own chemical closets; refuse bins are provided and are emptied each week by the Council.

(c) Glanty House Site

This site was extended during the year and now holds a maximum of 60 caravans. The site is generally well maintained, and is provided with main water, water closets drained some to a cesspool and some to the sewer, and refuse bins, the latter being emptied each week by the Council. The provision of other facilities for the occupiers of the caravans on this site is under consideration.

(d) Greenways Hotel Site

Without the permission of the Council the stationing of a number of caravans was allowed in the grounds of this hotel. Subsequently consent to this development under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 was refused and an appeal was lodged. A Public Local Inquiry was held and eventually the Minister allowed the appeal, so far as one part of the site was concerned, housing 14 caravans, but upheld the Council's refusal of consent for the remainder of the site. The caravans are all of a good type and the occupiers make use of sanitary facilities which are provided in the hotel

In addition to these four sites, other caravans are still stationed on individual sites in various parts of the district. During the year the use, for limited periods only, of 42 caravans on such sites was approved. Generally these caravans have their own chemical closets and most of them have a supply of main water on the site or have access to a supply from nearby.

HAIRDRESSERS

Under section 58 of the Egham Urban District Council Act, 1948, a total of nineteen hairdressers or barbers are now registered; no new premises were registered during the year, but re-registration was effected in the name of the new proprietor in the case of a business which changed hands during the year.

SECTION D**HOUSING****1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—**

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	163
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	815
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	5
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	5
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	119

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	102
---	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices .	
(a) By Owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	14
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which an undertaking was received from the owners	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	—

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
---	---

- (2) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

4. Progress in Housing

- (1) Houses erected during the year :
- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) by the local authority... | ... | ... | 105 |
| (b) by private enterprise ... | ... | ... | 13 |
- (2) Houses in course of construction at the end of the year :
- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) by the local authority... | ... | ... | 155 |
| (b) by private enterprise ... | ... | ... | 18 |

5. Applications for Accommodation

There were 1,174 outstanding applications for Council houses at the end of the year.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Amendment Regulations, 1951, fixed 1st March, 1951, as the date from which the clause in the principal Regulations of 1947 empowering a local authority to require the fitting of suitable recording and indicating thermometers to plant used for the heat treatment of ice cream should take effect. In the case of small plants the provision of such thermometers is relatively expensive and the coming into operation of this clause has no doubt given added impetus to the general trend noted in previous years for smaller producer-retailers to give up the production of ice cream in favour of buying it ready made from the larger firms, either in bulk form or prepacked. During the year the last two producer-retailers in this district gave up production and apart from small amounts made up from "complete cold mixes" all ice cream sold in the district is now produced elsewhere.

During the year 119 samples of ice cream were collected for examination and the results are summarised as under :—

- (a) Methylene Blue Test :

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
94	11	12	2
(78.9%)	(9.2%)	(10.0%)	(1.6%)

- (b) Coliform Test :

Absent in 1/10 m.l.	...	51
Present in 1/10 m.l.	...	68

Coliform organisms of faecal origin were found in 7 cases, in the remaining 61 cases the organisms being of non-faecal type.

Milk Supply

There is one pasteurising plant operating in the district and its supervision is undertaken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector acting on behalf of the Surrey County Council, the licensing authority. Steady improvements have been made to the plant during the year and the results of regular sampling have shown it to be turning out a satisfactory product.

Most of the milk now retailed in the district is sold under one or other of the special designations, by far the greater part of it being pasteurised. Most of it is produced elsewhere, and much of the milk produced locally goes to large dairies outside the district and is eventually pasteurised. At the end of the year only three producer-retailers were still operating in the district; the total output of these three was relatively very small.

During the year the Council readily agreed to co-operate in a scheme suggested by the County Medical Officer whereby throughout the County all supplies of milk intended for consumption without heat treatment are to be sampled for biological examination once each quarter. Under this scheme seventeen samples were taken, mainly at farms, and one positive result was received. This sample was from a producer-retailer. He decided to dispose of the retail side of his business to a dairyman operating a pasteurising plant who also agreed to take and pasteurise all the milk produced by this herd. The Divisional Veterinary Officer investigated the herd, and traced the infection to an animal which was subsequently slaughtered.

During the year 111 samples of milk were collected from the various retailers throughout the district for bacteriological examination; the results are classified below.

			Pasteurised School Milk	Pasteurised for Retail Sale	T.T. Pasteurised	Tuberculin Tested	Sterilised	Ungraded	Total
No. of samples tested...			10	79	7	5	3	7	111
Methylene Blue Test :									
Passed	...	...	10	75	7	5	3	7	107
Failed	...	...	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Phosphatase Test :									
Passed	...	...	10	78	7				95
Failed	...	...	—	1	—				1

Licenses

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, the following licences were issued :—

Dealers' Licences

Accredited	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	5
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	6
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	9

Supplementary Licences

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	4
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	6
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	2

In addition, one pasteuriser's licence was issued by the Surrey County Council, as mentioned under the previous heading.

Meat Inspection

Apart from emergencies and an occasional cottager's pig killed under permit, no slaughtering takes place in the district. Inspections of meat in the butchers' shops continued and where necessary certificates were given in respect of meat found to be unfit.

During the year the improvement noted in 1950 in the conditions under which meat was transported and delivered to the butchers' shops tended to deteriorate and further representations were made to the Ministry of Food. As a result new vehicles of much better type were provided towards the end of the year.

Food Inspection

Inspection of foodstuffs at shops and other premises continued as usual during the year, and certificates were issued in respect of the following items which were found to be unfit, and which were surrendered to the sanitary inspectors for destruction or salvage, or returned to the suppliers in accordance with instructions issued by the Ministry of Food.

Baby Food	...	...	...	2 tins
Beef, English	...	...	...	102 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Biscuits	...	...	...	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Butter, peanut	...	...	...	1 tin
Cereals	...	...	...	25 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	19 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.; 7 pkts.
Fish	...	...	...	15 stone, 5 lbs.
Fish, canned	...	...	...	36 tins
Fish, shell	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Fruit, bottled	...	...	...	16 bottles
Fruit, canned	...	...	...	462 tins

Fruit, dried	...	...	...	2 lbs., 6 ozs.
Fruit juices	...	...	...	24 tins; 1 bottle
Gravy browning	...	...	...	12 bottles
Meat, cooked	...	...	...	37½ lbs.
Meat preparations	...	...	...	251 tins
Milk	...	...	...	141 tins
Offal	...	...	...	72 lbs.
Pickles	...	...	...	3 jars
Pigs' trotters	...	...	...	1 cwt. barrel
Poultry	...	...	...	59 birds
Preserves	...	...	...	5 tins; 4 jars
Sauces	...	...	...	2 bottles
Sausages, beef	...	...	...	50 lbs.
Soup	...	...	...	99 tins
Spaghetti	...	...	...	18 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	119 tins

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The Food and Drugs authority for this district is the Surrey County Council. The following is a summary of the work done by that authority during the year.

Articles		Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular			Prose- cutions	Con- victions
		Frml.	Infrml.	Total	Frml.	Infrml.	Total		
Food :									
Milk	...	54	9	63	4	4	8	—	—
Cream	...	I	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
Cream, synthetic		I	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream	...	2	—	2	I	—	I	—	—
Jelly	...	I	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
Lemonade powder		I	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
Mincement	...	—	I	I	—	—	—	—	—
Sausages	...	I	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
Whisky	...	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Drugs :									
Chemical food	...	—	I	I	—	—	—	—	—
Cough and cold mixture	...	—	I	I	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...		63	12	75	5	4	9	—	—

Food Hawkers

Under Section 65 of the Egham Urban District Council Act, 1948, all hawkers of food within the district are required to register themselves, and the premises used by them as storage accommodation for food, with the Council. During the year 2 applications were approved for registration, bringing the total registrations at the end of the year to 15 persons with premises in the district, and 19 with premises in other districts.

Legal Proceedings

No legal proceedings were taken during the year, but in two cases strong warnings were issued on the instruction of the Council. One of these cases concerned a loaf of bread containing pieces of string, and the other a bottle of milk which had obviously been in a very dirty condition at the time of filling.

SECTION F

Influenza

Thirteen cases of death have been reported from this disease during the year.

Pneumonia

Two cases of this disease were notified.

Scarlet Fever

Eight cases were notified during the year and of these four were admitted to the Isolation Hospital. It is not nowadays generally necessary to admit such infections to a fever hospital and apart from the mildness of the condition itself it responds very satisfactorily to the newer forms of antibiotics which, such as penicillin, are nowadays more plentiful.

Diphtheria

No cases were notified during the year.

Measles

There were four hundred and eleven cases notified. The greatest numbers occurred from January to July and of these five were admitted to the Isolation Hospital. It is customary to admit this disease only when complications are present or when there are poor home conditions.

Whooping Cough

Forty cases of this disease were notified and one only was admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

Infantile Paralysis

One case only of this disease was notified in an adult. It was of the paralytic type and would appear to have been contracted outside the district.

Erysipelas

One case an adult was notified during the year.

Dysentery

One case only of Sonne Dysentery was notified.

Food Poisoning

No cases of this condition, which is now notifiable, were reported.

Other Diseases

The following non-notifiable conditions were brought to my notice by reports from Head Teachers :—

Chicken pox	...	...	...	233
Mumps	...	...	...	49
Jaundice	...	...	...	2
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	2
German Measles	...	...	...	19
Ringworm	...	...	...	1

Tuberculosis

There were twenty seven cases added to the register during the year. Twelve of these were transfers into the district, and fifteen were new cases occurring in the district. Twenty-six cases were removed from the register during the year, leaving at the end of the year a total of one hundred and seventy cases, 135 pulmonary and 35 non-pulmonary, a nett increase for the year of one.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1951

Age Period		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	...	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—	...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—	...	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—	...	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—	...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards		1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTALS	...	7	7	—	1	7	2	—	—

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925

No action has been necessary under Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Disinfection

The rooms of 31 houses were sprayed or fumigated, following cases of infectious disease.

Cancer

Forty-two cases died from cancer during the year—24 males and 18 females, being two cases more than last year.

The age incidence of these 42 cases is as follows :—

	0-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81-90
Males	—	—	—	—	1	6	6	10	1
Females	—	—	—	—	3	5	3	4	3

The place incidence as regards Wards is as follows :—

	Town	Egham Hythe	Englefield Green	Virginia Water	Thorpe
Males	8	6	4	3	3
Females	5	3	3	4	3

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	8	5	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	5
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Other Diseases notifiable locally...	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	1	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis, paralytic	1	1	—

Acute Poliomyelitis, non paralytic	—	—	—
Malaria Induced	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	40	—	—
Measles	411	3	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE. The numbers of cases during the past five years are as follows :—

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	29	5	20	18	8
Diphtheria	4	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas	2	4	1	2	1
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	13	9	19	20	14
Tuberculosis (non-Pulmonary)	2	3	5	5	1
Measles	222	154	337	81	411
Whooping Cough	85	124	35	52	40
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	18	4	1	—	2
Dysentery	—	—	—	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis, paralytic {	2	1	3	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis, non-paralytic				5	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis ...	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	7	—
TOTALS	378	305	423	195	479

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

The Surrey County Council is responsible, in conjunction with the District Welfare Committee, for all matters relating to services provided under Section 29 and Section 30 of the National Assistance Act. Provisions are made for the registration of the blind and for such persons the services of education, home employment, the provision of books, the provision of homes and hostels, and the provision of financial payments are maintained. Much of the work in connection with the blind is carried out by the Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind in co-operation with the County Council. In addition the Council has extended the services to certain classes of partially sighted persons.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Classified in Wards

WARDS	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Acute Poliomyelitis		Pneumonia	Dysentery	Pul T. B.	Non-Pul. T. B.
					Paralytic	Non- Paralytic				
TOWN	1	119	14	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
EGHAM HYTHERIDGE	1	96	5	1	1	—	—	—	5	1
ENGLEFIELD GREEN	5	135	14	—	—	—	2	—	6	—
VIRGINIA WATER	1	17	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
THORPE	—	44	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	8	411	40	1	1	—	2	1	14	1

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES DURING 1951 UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Under										65 and over	Total
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	1	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis, paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis, non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	3	5	5	7	4	15	1	—	—	—	—	40
Measles ...	4	32	49	48	70	192	9	2	2	2	1	411
TOTALS ...	7	37	55	55	74	212	12	2	4	3	1	464